

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3217

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, OVIP (CARTER, PRESIDENT)
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: SCHEDULE COMMENTS

REF: USUN 2097

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED INFORMAL WORD OF THE DRAFT SCHEDULE FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT THAT REPORTEDLY IS PRESENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON. THERE ARE TWO MAIN POINTS WHICH WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE SCHEDULE WILL RESULT IN A VISIT OF MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS AND GOOD FEELING IN THE UN COMMUNITY, AND WE WISH TO FLAG THESE FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION.

2. SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM'S REQUIREMENTS: THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS MADE UNUSUALLY INTENSE REPRESENTATIONS TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG THAT THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT WOULD FORFEIT SOME OF ITS GLOSS IF THE PRESIDENT IS NOT PERCEIVED IN THE UN COMMUNITY TO ACCORD THE ORGANIZATION A CERTAIN DEGREE OF RECOGNITION AND DEFERENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH LONG-ESTABLISHED CONVENTIONAL PRACTICES (REFTEL). IN RESPONSE TO INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT IN AN EFFORT TO MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS OF THE OFFICE OF THE
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SECRETARY GENERAL, WE APPROACHED HIS STAFF SEPTEMBER 19 AND OBTAINED THEIR AGREEMENT THAT THE FOLLOWING UTILIZATION OF THE BLOCK OF TIME PRESENTLY ALLOCATED TO PRIVATE TIME FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM 0900 TO 1040 ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, WOULD MEET THE MINIMUM NEEDS OF THE ORGANIZATION.
0900 - 0925 PRIVATE MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL
(38TH FLOOR)

0925 - 0945 SECRETARY GENERAL HOSTS MEETING WITH DIRECTORS
GENERAL OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES
0945 - 1005 SIGN HUMAN RIGHTS COVENANTS
1005 - 1035 SECRETARY GENERAL HOSTS "COFFEE" FOR ELECTED
OFFICIALS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND OTHER INVITED VIP'S
1040 RESUME SCHEDULE

3. THIS AMENDMENT WAS DEVISED IN THE THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD MEET REQUIREMENTS WITH A MINIMUM ADJUSTMENT OF THE SCHEDULE AS WE HAD UNDERSTOOD IT WAS SHAPING UP. THIS PLAN ALSO ACCOMMODATES THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S NEED TO BE IN THE CHAIR IN PLENARY WHEN, FOR EXAMPLE, THE AUSTRIAN FONMIN SPEAKS. WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED RESPONSE TO THIS PROPOSAL AND ARE OBLIGATED TO INFORM THE SECRETARY GENERAL WHETHER THIS WILL BE ACCEPTABLE.

4. "COFFEE" AT USUN, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS PRESENTLY BEING CONSIDERED FOR 1715 ON OCTOBER 5, WILL NOT MEET THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S POINT BECAUSE HE WILL NOT BE PRESENTING THE OFFICIALS OF THE ORGANIZATION AS HOST ON UN GROUNDS. WE QUESTION ALSO WHETHER WE CAN ACCOMPLISH OUR OWN OBJECTIVES WITH THE HEADS OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES IN THIS KIND OF EXPANDED GATHERING.

5. TIME OF PRESIDENT'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPEECH: WE UNDERSTAND THAT CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO SHIFTING
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THE TIME FOR THE PRESIDENT TO COMMENCE DELIVERING HIS SPEECH TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM 1000 TO 1030 ON OCTOBER 4. THE PURPOSE OF OUR ORIGINAL SUGGESTION OF AN EARLIER HOUR WAS TO AVOID INCONVENIENCING THE THREE ARAB SPEAKERS AND INDIA, ALL LONG AGO SCHEDULED TO SPEAK THAT MORNING. INDIA PROBABLY WOULD BE BUMPED TO THE AFTERNOON IF WE PRESS A DESIRE TO COMMENCE AT 1030. IF INDIA IS BUMPED TO THE AFTERNOON, THE LAST SPEAKER OF THE DAY IS PUSHED BACK TO 7 OR 8 P.M. AND SPEAKS TO A HALF-EMPTY HALL. ALL OF THESE STATES SELECTED THEIR POSITIONS ON THE SPEAKER'S LIST WITH CARE AND CONSIDERATION FOR MANY FACTORS, INCLUDING POSITION IN THE DAY'S CALENDAR, MEDIA COVERAGE, AND TIME DIFFERENCES WITH THEIR CAPITALS, AND HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS ACCORDINGLY. THE THREE ARABS (IRAQ, UAE, AND SAUDI ARABIA) HAVE ALL APPROACHED US EXPRESSING CONCERN THAT THEY MAY BE INCONVENIENCED. DISRUPTION OF THEIR PLANS IS BOUND TO LEAVE FEELINGS.

6. OTHER POINTS: WE MIGHT ALSO NOTE THAT BARBADOS'S POSITION ON THE SPEAKER'S LIST MAKES IT POSSIBLE THAT THE PROPOSED BILATERAL AT 1630 OCTOBER 5 MAY CONFLICT.

7. CONCERNING THE PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL AT THE UN BUILDING, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TENTATIVELY AT 0940 OCTOBER 4, THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE INFORMS US THAT FOR SECURITY REASONS THEY PLAN FOR THE PRESIDENT TO BE GREETED AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE SECRETARIAT BUILDING, NOT THE DELEGATES' ENTRANCE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING. THE SECRETARY GENERAL WOULD GREET THE PRESIDENT THERE WITH AN APPROPRIATE BRIEF HONOR GUARD DISPLAY AND GUIDE HIM THROUGH THE INTERIOR OF THE UN BUILDING TO THE SECOND-FLOOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMPLEX. THERE, HE WOULD BE ESCORTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHERE HE WOULD BE INTRODUCED AND CHAT BRIEFLY. THAT OFFICE IS DIRECTLY BEHIND THE PODIUM IN THE MAIN GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY HALL. AT THE APPOINTED TIME, THEREFORE, CONFIDENTIAL

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THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE ESCORTED DIRECTLY OUT TO THE PODIUM TO BE INTRODUCED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND DELIVER HIS SPEECH. THE SECRETARY GENERAL IS NOT PRESENTLY THINKING OF THE PRESIDENT PROCEEDING FROM THE ENTRANCE ON ARRIVAL TO THE 38TH FLOOR, SINCE THE TIME BEFORE A 1000 ADDRESS WOULD BE TOO BRIEF.

8. HIS STAFF ALSO MADE THE POINT THAT IN OUR PLANNING IT WOULD NOT BE A FEASIBLE OPTION TO USE THE DELEGATES' ENTRANCE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING FOR THE ARRIVAL BECAUSE THE DELEGATES AND GUESTS WILL BE ARRIVING AT THAT TIME AND MAKE SECURITY AND TRAFFIC FLOW IMPOSSIBLE TO COPE WITH.

9. WE BELIEVE THAT IN PUTTING THESE PLANS INTO FINAL FORM AND RECONCILING THE APPARENT PROBLEMS IN THE SCHEDULE, IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL TO HAVE AN ADVANCE MAN COME TO NEW YORK FOR A DAY OR TWO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. YOUNG

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